



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Roeland Pieter Smit

Title: Performative Power and Terrorism in Europe in the 2010's

Programme/year: ISS, 2018

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor): Emil Aslan (Souleimanov)

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	24
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	32
<i>Total</i>		80	64
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	4
	Formal requirements	5	10
<i>Total</i>		20	24
TOTAL		100	88



Evaluation

Major criteria:

This is a smartly organized and solidly executed M.A. thesis (a) bringing together insights from De Graaf's theory of performative power and the Copenhagen School's securitization theory and (b) testing critically the applicability of the theory of performative power on a number of terrorist attacks carried out recently in France.

In the Conclusion, the author critically evaluates De Graaf's theory with regard to its 14 signifiers which the author finds vague and incomplete.

Methodologically, it self-declares to be a case study, although it does have a certain comparative touch. Theoretically, it is well-informed. Structurally, it is well-organized.

Minor criteria:

In formal terms, there is nothing to reprehend.

Overall evaluation: A solid MA thesis, well-executed in terms of research objectives and organization and delivering a critical reading of an existing theoretical approach.

Suggested grade: B.



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Signature: Emil Aslan (Souleimanov)

